[1st November 1932

Forests

Closure of the Chenat Nair Exploitation Scheme.

* 237 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the Chenat Nair exploitation was ordered to be closed;

(*b*) the expenditure incurred up to date on the care and the maintenance of the machinery;

(*c*) whether the assets have been disposed of and the accounts closed finally and if so, when, and if not, why not;

(*d*) the price paid by the Government at first for the Holt Tractor sold to Tea Estates (India), Limited, Coimbatore, and the price for which it was sold to them and the cost of the repairs executed prior to its sale; and

(*e*) the number of other tractors purchased by the Government together with the respective prices, specifications and their present condition and the steps taken for their disposal?

A.—(*a*) The Chenat Nair Exploitation concern was ordered to be closed down with effect from 5th November 1929.

(*b*) The expenditure incurred from November 1929, on the care and maintenance of the machinery, is Rs. 5,966-11-0 comprising the following items:—

	RS.	A.	P.
Establishment employed	3,909	1	4
Stores and oils used	578	3	8
Insurance against fire	1,479	6	0

(*c*) Yes. The assets have been sold for Rs. 27,000 and the accounts have been closed with effect from 1st April 1932.

(*d*) The Holt Tractor sold to Tea Estates, India, Ltd., was originally purchased for Rs. 31,865-7-0. It was sold to the firm for Rs. 2,500 in June 1930. The book value of the Tractor was nothing. The cost of the repairs including the cost of spare parts, which were in stock, effected previous to its sale, was Rs. 1,669-5-0.

(*e*) Besides the Holt Tractor sold to Tea Estates, India, Ltd., seven other tractors were purchased. A statement[a] showing the specifications, prices and the present condition of the tractors is appended.

Messrs. Moylan & Co., Coimbatore, were first addressed as to whether they required any of the tractors in connexion with the Siruvani Dam work. As the firm was not in need of the tractors, the sale was advertised in three issues of the *Hindu* and the *Madras Mail* at intervals of a week during November and December last. No offers were received, although there were a few enquiries.

[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 256 infra.

Subsequently the following heads of other Government departments were addressed as to whether they required any of these tractors:—

The Director of Industries.

The Chief Engineer, Roads and Buildings, Public Works Department.

The Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

The Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Development.

The Chief Engineer in charge of Cauvery-Mettur Project and the Inspector-General of Prisons.

No offers have so far been received from these departments, but the Forest Engineer to the Government of Bombay has examined some of the tractors and it is hoped that an offer for one of them may be received.

The Government have accepted an offer of Rs. 3,250 for the Beypore mill machinery, which covers the sale of the tractors used in connexion with that mill.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know at what stage the disposal of the machinery is?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"So far as the disposal of the machinery is concerned, every stage has been concluded."

Closing of the Kodikana reserve forest for grazing.

*238 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Kodikana reserve forest in South Mangalore division has been closed to grazing of the village cattle from the beginning of June 1932, and, if so, for what reasons;

(*b*) whether any other reserve forest areas in this division have been similarly closed to grazing this year; and

(*c*) whether the residents of Thodikana village have submitted any petition to the Collector of South Kanara in regard to the closing of the forest to grazing, and, if so, whether a copy of that petition will be placed on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) Yes; the reserve was closed to grazing on account of three fires which occurred in it.

(*b*) The following areas also were closed to grazing for the same reason:—

(1) Kalpatimale Reserved Forest ...	Whole
(2) Veera Kamba bit II Reserved Forest.	Part
(3) Bantamale Reserved Forest ...	Part
(4) Medinadka Reserved Forest ...	Part
(5) Bantaji Reserved Forest ...	Whole
(6) Sampajee Reserved Forest ...	Part